

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended to correct obvious typographical errors.

In the Office Action mailed July 6, 2005, claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,884,286, to Daugherty, in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,999,918, to Williams et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Initially, Applicants note and protest the cursory nature of the Office Action. The present application has 18 claims pending, and four of those are independent claims. Yet the entirety of the grounds for rejection is one 13-line paragraph in the Office Action. None of the claims is separately discussed.

Independent claim 1 mentions drawing a zone to represent a proposed option, and viewing a displayed win ratio. Neither of those limitations is even mentioned in the Office Action.

Independent claim 7 requires calculating and transmitting a win ratio. Again, that limitation is not even mentioned in the Office Action.

Independent claim 10 requires software for drawing a zone representing an option and for transmitting zone parameters. No such software is mentioned in the Office Action.

Independent claim 15 has numerous details not mentioned in the Office Action: (1) receiving data representing parameters of a box option, computing probability of the value of the asset hitting the box from the front, etc.

The fact that substantive claim limitations of the independent claims are not even addressed in the Office Action makes the claim rejections defective on their face.

Moreover, neither Daugherty nor Williams teaches any of the above-noted unmentioned limitations. Consequently, independent claims 1, 7, 10, and 15 are patentable over the combination of Daugherty and Williams.

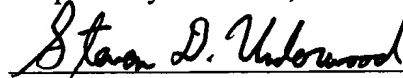
Since the claims from which they depend are patentable, dependent claims 2-6, 8-9, 11-14, and 16-18 also are patentable. Moreover, those claims are separately patentable because they contain further limitations taught by neither Daugherty nor Williams. For example, claim 4 specifies a rectangular zone; and claims 16-18 incorporate one or more formulas not taught by the cited references.

For the reasons provided above, all pending claims are patentable over the cited references, separately and in combination.

No fee is believed to be required for this amendment. If, however, a fee is due, please charge such fee to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP's Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, she is invited to call the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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